

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013**

The City of Leesburg Commission held a regular meeting Monday, June 10, 2013, in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Commissioner Elise Dennison
Commissioner Jay Hurley
Commissioner John Christian
Commissioner Bill Polk
Mayor David Knowles

Also present were Interim City Manager (ICM) Ray Sharp, City Clerk (CC) Betty Richardson, City Attorney (CA) Fred Morrison, Deputy City Clerk (DCC) Andi Purvis, the news media, and others.

Commissioner Hurley gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PROCLAMATIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Polk moved to adopt the Consent Agenda and Commissioner Christian seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Dennison	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the Consent Agenda, as follows:

CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES: None

PURCHASING ITEMS: None

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 9201

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a modified assistance agreement with U.S. Department of Energy for the Smart Grid Investment project award no. DE-OE-0000236; and providing an effective date.

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RESOLUTION 9202

Resolution of the City of Leesburg authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement with Embarq Florida, Inc d/b/a Century Link for joint use poles, and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 9203

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an Amendment No. 1 to PCS Site Agreement; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 9204

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor to sign a GSA-Federal Supply Schedule Purchase Order with Verizon Wireless for cell phone service pricing plan; and providing an effective date.

RESOLUTION 9205

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to fund 80% of the cost associated with a project to clear obstructions from the approaches to Runway 03 and Runway 31 at Leesburg International Airport.

RESOLUTION 9206

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Amendment One with Beesley Construction Company increasing the contract amount for the Bentley Road Force Main Project; and extending the contract duration; and providing an effective date.

OTHER ITEMS: None

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE REZONING APPROXIMATELY 5.5 ACRES ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF US 441 AND FERN DRIVE

Commissioner Polk introduced the ordinance to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE ZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 5.5 ACRES FROM CITY CIP (COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL PLANNED) TO A CITY SPUD (SMALL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) TO ALLOW A MEDICAL CENTER USE FOR A PROPERTY ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF US 441 AND FERN DRIVE, AS LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 19, RANGE 25, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN EXHIBIT A; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Branch Banking and Trust/MD Expansion, LLC)

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

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Commissioner Polk asked if this is a bank. CA Morrison stated it is a foreclosure with BB&T.

Commissioner Dennison asked if this is where the Chang medical building is going. CDD Wiley stated yes, it will be two large medical buildings.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9207 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A NINTH AMENDMENT TO A CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HEWITT POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Commissioner Hurley introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY
CLERK TO EXECUTE THE NINTH AMENDMENT TO A
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HEWITT POWER
AND COMMUNICATIONS, INC.; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
DATE.

Commissioner Polk moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Dennison stated she thought the Commission was going to see numbers tonight, not an actual approval of this contract extension. She noted under the Fiscal Impact, the pricing schedule offers a modest reduction in cost but no numbers are listed. Commissioner Dennison asked if is this a reduction in cost over the contract bid proposal or a reduction in what was already established in 2000 and if the Commission is just going along with what Hewitt proposed during the bid proposal process.

ICM Sharp stated the Electric staff compared what was then the existing contract the City has been operating under with the pricing on the bid proposal given under the last bid. The bid pricing by Hewitt was about \$55,000 lower for like items and quantities than in the previous contract.

Commissioner Dennison asked if this is a reduction from the \$75,000. ICM Sharp stated no, this is a reduction from the price schedule the City has been operating under for the last ten years or so. Using the most recent version prices of the eighth amendment and comparing them to their bid prices, the bid prices are actually a reduction.

Commissioner Dennison stated so Hewitt is still in excess of the bid versus Heart Utilities. ICM Sharp stated yes, that part did not change.

Commissioner Dennison stated so the City is still going to pay over a quarter of a million dollars more to Hewitt than if it had gone with Heart.

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ICM Sharp stated depending on the actual quantities yes, it is three times and the difference between Heart and Hewitt was about \$75,000 a year and those quantities over the actual spend outs will be over the course of three years, 3 x \$75,000.

Commissioner Dennison stated the Commission is asking the tax payers to pay a quarter of a million dollars more than they need to. ICM Sharp stated this is the offer Mr. Hewitt provided.

Greg Padgett stated he was hired by Mr. Hewitt to compare the numbers on the 2012 pricing and 2013 pricing and he concurs with what ICM Sharp said based on the quantities. It is about a \$55,000 lower bid taking the new 2013 pricing as opposed to the 2012.

Mayor Knowles asked if the City would then be within the local vendor match. ICM Sharp stated no, that part did not change.

Commissioner Christian stated for him, it is like comparing apples to oranges. Mr. Hewitt reduced his price from 2012 or whatever the last bid the city put out and the low bidder, Heart, came in at \$75,000 lower. Commissioner Christian stated as he understands it, basically Mr. Hewitt said he is going to drop his price \$55,000 not from the bid document, but from the original contract the City had on the books.

ICM Sharp stated for clarification the City issued a bid and it came before the Commission with the low bidder Heart Utilities from Jacksonville and the second low bid was Hewitt Power and Communications. Hewitt was approximately \$75,000 higher for the estimated like quantities for annual requirements than Heart. The Commission gave direction to staff to reject all bids and reissue the bid at a later date. Subsequent to that, Hewitt made an offer to extend their existing contract, which they have had for three years, and the Commission at the last meeting was asked if it would entertain such an offer because the direction given to the staff was to rebid and the Commission's said they will consider such an offer. ICM Sharp stated as Commissioner Dennison mentioned earlier, the Commission did want a comparison between the two and in comparison to the 2012 contract the City has been operating under the Hewitt 2013 bid offer was \$55,000 lower.

Commissioner Christian stated basically the City is still at the same starting point it was a couple months ago and wants to make sure the Commission is clear and understands what it is doing tonight if it pays \$75,000 more for the next three years when it could have been lower. Commissioner Christian stated the City needs to make sure it keeps the same tenor and not one week say it is being very fiscal conservative having to cut the budget, not give employees raises, and the next week say \$75,000 a year is not that much money.

Commissioner Dennison stated she would like to know what happened because the Commission asked for this to be re-bid, but it has not been done.

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ICM Sharp stated the direction was to rebid, but to extend the current Hewitt contract through the end of this year so staff would have time to review the bid specifications to clear up any discrepancies.

Commissioner Dennison stated she agrees with Commission Christian. The Police Department has not had a raise in five years, but the City is willing to pay more money for something that should not be more money.

Mayor Knowles stated he thinks there is also the question of value as Hewitt is the only company who placed a bid holding all the necessary licensing to carry out the operations the City wishes to have carried out. Heart Utilities in their wisdom said they would find a contractor they could work through, but Hewitt does not need to do that and Mayor Knowles stated he thinks there is a value in having people who are licensed to perform our operations.

Commissioner Hurley stated he thinks it needs to be rebid and that Hewitt should come forward and continue through the rest of the year. Commissioner Hurley stated Commissioner Christian spoke tonight about a quality to having Hewitt and for him, it is a big issue in the benefit factor because their employees are here and their tax base is going to be here and the revenue from that is put back into the pocket of the City of Leesburg through shopping, taxes and all those things, so it is a quality of life. Commissioner Hurley pointed out as the Commission goes through the discussions on budget to raise taxes or not, this is an agreement by all who vote yes tonight that this is going to help Leesburg and it is going to provide a better quality of life by having faster response times by Mr. Hewitt's company.

Commissioner Polk stated he thinks quality of service is a very important thing for Leesburg as it has tried services for a lower price before and it does not work when the City gets low bidders who do not stay here. Licenses needed should be required so Leesburg gets the quality of business it needs and is getting it for less than last year by \$55,000.

Mayor Knowles stated in 2004, Leesburg had three hurricanes come through and Hewitt construction had people out on the streets during the storms to find out where trees and lines were down. People in Orlando did not have power for two weeks and Leesburg had its power restored to virtually everyone within five days and ninety percent had it all restored in three days. Mayor Knowles stated there is an advantage to having home town folks working with the City.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Dennison	No
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, one nay, the Commission adopted the resolution.

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ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9208 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A FDOT JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FOR THE PROJECT TO EXTEND TAXIWAY "A"

Commissioner Polk introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY
CLERK TO EXECUTE A FDOT JOINT PARTICIPATION
AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING DESIGN,
PERMITTING, BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES
ASSOCIATED WITH A PROJECT TO EXTEND TAXIWAY "A" TO
THE EASTERN PROPERTY LINE OF LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Polk asked if this is going to be the runway going out to the lake and if this is the last extension available. ICM Sharp stated this is the extension of the taxiway to the lake to connect to the seaplane ramp and is for the purpose of reserving the funding from FDOT to fund the engineering design and permitting.

DCM Drymon stated the budget provided by FDOT for this JPA is funding which was originally in reserve for an additional landing system, but due to changing circumstances at the airport was no longer required. The City is basically trying to salvage some of that money for the sea plane ramp project and staff feels very fortunate to get FDOT to come forward with this JPA at this time.

DCM Drymon introduced Leo Treggi, the City's new Airport Operations Manager.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Dennison	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

Miscellaneous Account Receivables balances as of March 2013

Expected Write-offs as of March 2013

Monthly Financial Report for March 2013

City Manager Contingency Budget

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CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS:

None

CITY MANAGER ITEMS:

ICM Sharp reminded all Commissioners of the budget workshop Thursday, June 13th, at 5:30.

ICM Sharp stated there will be an item on the June 24th agenda to short list the candidates the Commission would like to interview for its new City Manager. Notebooks with the full background information including references, reference checks, and additional information should be received by the end of this week.

ICM Sharp thanked PIO Sargent and CDD Wiley for producing the flyer to help promote the landscape and façade grant program approved recently by the Commission. These flyers will be distributed by City meter readers while doing their rounds so hopefully this will stimulate some interest in the program.

ICM Sharp also stated on the next agenda, there will be an item for purchase of a possible Stormwater site. Staff has obtained an appraisal for about \$36,000; however, the owner's asking price is around \$100,000. Staff has been unable to meet anywhere in the middle especially on the \$36,000 end so this will be brought before the Commission for further discussion on use of the site.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Lukich thanked Commissioner Dennison for looking out for the taxpayers of Leesburg; stating he and the citizens appreciate it.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Hurley thanked the Commission and staff for their work and efforts in getting a facility for the Boys and Girls Club to use on such short notice for this summer. Commissioner Hurley said he was there today and the program was functioning and very excited and the club is very appreciative of the City's help.

Commissioner Hurley asked IPWD Maudlin for an update on the wake zone. **IPWD Maudlin** stated staff conducted field tests for no wake zone constructing a 300 foot radius from the existing boat ramp and a 500 foot radius from the fueling station. Taking the Fire Department's twenty-two foot 200 horsepower boat around the inside of the cove about as fast as it could run, staff found there was relatively no impact at the boat ramp. By the time the waves got in there, they were fairly well dissipated; however, the impact on the boats at the marina was a little bit more troublesome. Staff concluded some sort of wave continuation system will be needed. **Commissioner Hurley** asked if any tentative approvals have been received. **IPWD Maudlin** stated he has spoken with Florida Fish and Wildlife boating section and they agree in principle and would like to review the drafted ordinance before presented to the Commission for adoption. IPWD Maudlin also stated he has spoken to the Coast Guard and they do not appear to be interested much. The Core of Engineers will get involved with what kind of signs needed when staff goes to post the no wake zone.

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Commissioner Hurley said there is no way to have this done by the July 4th weekend. **IPWD Maudlin** stated he was told by Fish and Wildlife, it will be sixty to ninety days. **Mayor Knowles** asked if in that time frame, staff could also come up with some type of wave diminishing system. **IPWD Maudlin** stated there are two challenges, the budget issue in terms of about sixty to seventy-five thousand dollars and the permit requirement process. **Commissioner Hurley** asked if the weight barrier that breaks the waves could be reduced as far as the cost of how much it will take to install. **IPWD Maudlin** stated it will not be nearly as extensive as first thought; 150 to 200 feet of continuation as opposed to the original 450 feet. **Commissioner Hurley** thanked IPWD Maudlin and staff and asked them to keep up the good work.

Commissioner Hurley asked for an update on Venetian Gardens for the Fourth of July celebration. He said he knows there was the start of a cleanup day and thought staff was going to bid out a couple different services to maintain such as the mowing and tree trimming. **ICM Sharp Ray** stated bids for landscape maintenance, mowing, edging, etc. have been advertised and regarding the tree trimming, he believes staff is planning to handle on a case by case basis because specific instances do not rise at this moment to a bid level pricing so staff can use local vendors and not have to bid this out. **ICM Sharp** stated staff has had a couple of work days, some by Public Works and Parks and Recreation had one full work day to get the park prepared for the fourth of July and believes there is a prison work crew coming to do more. **Assistant Director of Parks (ADP) Jennifer Magavero** stated an inmate group is coming Wednesday and Thursday of this week concentrating on the park and those areas that are not blocked off for the bridge repair and then there is an all staff work day scheduled for July first. **ICM Sharp** stated the fireworks contract is in place and the City received a sizable donation from Phillips Auto Group in support. Over the weekend, some of our Community has been out building barges for the fireworks display.

Commissioner Hurley stated he does not see where any of the commission meetings have been archived as far as being accessible on Lakefront TV and asked if it will be possible to get those archived. **PIO Sargent** stated staff has not gotten to archive the meetings because since the cameras started, the meetings have gotten quite long and take up a large amount of memory space. What can be done with archiving is to use U-tube, but with the meetings lasting up to two and a half hours or more, it makes it difficult. **PIO Sargent** suggested he could review other alternatives if that is something the Commission would like to have done.

Commissioner Hurley asked if the Commission could receive additional candidates for the City Manager position. When he reviewed the nine names presented, he was not real impressed. **ICM Sharp** stated he welcomes feedback from the Commissioners and when he spoke with the consultant, they promised much more extensive information when the full background packages on the candidates are received.

Commissioner Hurley stated he noticed the new signs going up at Plaza Mercury asked if they are part of the Leesburg match grant with the monument signs. **CDD Wiley** stated if they are existing pole signs, they are eligible for the sign grant and believes they have applied for the sign grant.

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Commissioner Hurley stated he saved the fire storm for last and asked what the City is going to do with the training facility. **ICM Sharp** stated at the present time Chief Bowman and Lake County Fire Chief Jolliff are meeting regularly to work on the capabilities, appropriate standards, availability, and the status position of the County's training facility in Sunnyside. ICM Sharp stated he believes Chief Bowman has until the end of July to work with Chief Jolliff to determine what is necessary and possible to work with their county training staff for scheduling and the availability of space and so forth at the facility. The chiefs had met several times with Chief Jolliff reporting to ICM Sharp the outcome and they are making some progress towards working together. **Commissioner Hurley** stated he has two concerns as he also lives in Sleepy Hollow; the already displeasure from the residence because on training days cars are parked all up and down the road, the facility only has about eight or nine parking spaces, and also the smoke issue. Commissioner Hurley stated he is also a little skeptical on the relationship issues between municipalities and the county's Fire Department. He stated he is looking at the City's current training facility; having spent a considerable amount of money and hours of work and it is kind of like being stuck in the middle of a lake; turn around to go back or continue to the other side. Commissioner Hurley stated he is trying to figure out if at some point a training facility will be needed before the City totally backs out and loses what it has spent.

Commissioner Christian thanked Commissioner Hurley and City staff assisting with the NAACPs building and property cleanup. It was a great day with the community showing up for some good team work with all the various sources. Some of the firefighters also came and Chief Bowman showed up with his chain saw. Commissioner Christian stated as the budget process starts, he hopes a vision can be started for the future of Leesburg. As he rides through the city and speaks with people, he sees there much to be done and thinks the days of burying our heads in the sand, saying the sky is falling is not the correct answer and hopes all takes this budget season seriously, thinking not just about today but also our tomorrows. Commissioner Christian stated he is excited to hear about the FEAT park and hopes there is going to be funding in place to help start with the development and advertising of the park. Also, the city grant program is important and the people who may be leasing property on 441/27 may not be excited over this program so staff may want to consider talking to the owners of those buildings and make sure no opportunity is missed to enhance the success of rebuilding our city. Commissioner Christian emphasized the Hewitt project and stated he heard Mr. Lukich, but this is \$55,000 less and as Commissioner Dennison said our Police, Fire, and several departments have not received raises. When talking about the City Manager search, Commissioner Christian stated if he was to Google Leesburg wanting to make a career change and read about our city over the last two years with everything going on would he really want to come here to make the change, so it is no wonder why with the nine candidates received no one really stands out. Commissioner Christian stated as he made a commitment to our employees and asks them to give the Commission a chance to bite this bullet and make sure the quality of services to our residents is restored and also give our employees some stability so they will give back one hundred and ten percent.

Commissioner Dennison stated Leesburg not only had the principle of the year but also has the Police Officer of the year for Lake County and she would like to see a proclamation done for this outstanding officer. There is concern about not having raises

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for these people who are doing an outstanding job. **Commissioner Dennison** asked for an update on the concession stand contracts and **ICM Sharp** stated it is on his to do list and estimated update will be completed by the end of July. **Commissioner Dennison** asked where the City stands on the zoning code changes for FEAT Park. **CDD Wiley** stated in the report he gave a few weeks ago, the changes should go before the Planning Commission in July and then before the Commission in August. **Commissioner Dennison** stated the Airport lost a veteran pilot over weekend in a crash and it is serious business at the Airport; it is not just a hobby place. She also requested Mr. Treggi give updates on the Airport and what he would like to see done out there as well. **Commissioner Dennison** then inquired where the City stands with the airport leases as there are companies out there willing to invest more money and jobs into Leesburg. **CA Morrison** stated he can speak to the specific lease on Brainerd as he reviewed it today with only minor language issue points. He stated the next step is for him, ICM Sharp, staff, Attorney Schroth and his clients to sit down for a discussion on the rent and terms over the proposal on the table. This may require some give and take and then can be brought to the Commission for review. **Commissioner Dennison** then inquired about the Wipaire lease and **CA Morrison** stated it was returned for extensive changes and he received it back on Friday for his review and it should be sent to ICM Sharp and DCM Drymon soon for their comments.

Commissioner Polk stated he had the opportunity last Thursday to meet with Mr. Baenzinger, Junior and is disappointed in the nine candidates provided for City Manager. Three might be alright, but he did not see any strong stand outs and would like to try to bring in some new candidates. Commissioner Polk stated his is not happy with nine people who are average and without the utility knowledge he was hoping for. Some candidates have been around for awhile, but do not know how long they would stay in Leesburg. Commissioner Polk stated he would like to see the consultant firm bring more names and do what they are paid to do. **Commissioner Polk** stated he would like to see support from the Commission about golf cart use in Leesburg and make a motion this evening to have CA Morrison get the paperwork together to see what can be done for the necessary permits of operation. **Mayor Knowles** asked if there was a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Polk made a motion to direct CA Morrison to contact Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to acquire the necessary paperwork to get golf carts operating in Leesburg and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

Commissioner Dennison asked CA Morrison to refresh memories on the memo he sent out sometime ago about what the cost might be and what is needed. **CA Morrison** stated he has no idea as to cost, but procedure wise the City has to determine where it wants to go and he thinks there is not much issue on the North side of Main Street but on the South side they have to cross Highway 44 and that would entail Canal Street. Although not tested personally, CA Morrison said he understands the new bridges are structurally sound and wide enough to get golf carts from the neighborhood over to Canal Street and if you cannot do that what is the point. The City will have to apply to FDOT to present the request to the traffic operations engineer and then they have a long laundry list of criteria they apply and if they then say it is feasible, the City has to get another formal engineer study. CA Morrison stated the best he could do at this point is to get with

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IPWD Maudlin and put together the application to FDOT saying what the City would like to do and wait for their response. **Commissioner Christian** asked where the golf carts would be driven if mentioning the bridges but what about the sidewalks down Dixie Avenue. **CA Morrison** stated no they would have to cross Dixie to Canal Street which is a local street; the City can designate local streets for golf cart use but would have to work with Lake County on Main Street and for other roads. **Commissioner Christian** asked if the carts would actually be driven on the roads. **CA Morrison** stated yes, that is what you have if going up to Fruitland Park past your church where the little golf cart signs start. **Commissioner Polk** stated he has seen them around downtown Fruitland Park and it seems like this is a time issue and he would like to see this get rolling. **Commissioner Christian** stated he has no problem with golf carts he was just wondering and would hate to see people on the sidewalks, see kids on their bikes on the sidewalks and golf carts at the same time. **CA Morrison** stated the drivers must be at least eighteen years of age and the golf carts are driven on the roads and must have lights, brake lights and follow some other rules.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Dennison	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Five yeas, no nays, the Commission approved to start the process with FDOT to allow golf cart use in the City of Leesburg.

Commissioner Polk stated he questions the cargo boxes the City does not need and would like to see them put up for sale or return them at a discounted rate to get some money back and maybe keep a couple if they can be used for storage by Parks and Recreation. He thinks the county is a centralized location for training and feels it is a waste of money for each city to have its own facility. **ICM Sharp** stated he would like to wait until we reach the point of knowing for sure whether the county facility is useful to the City and have enough information to make a qualified decision. The City does not want to get rid of the cargo boxes and find out a month or two or six down the road it should have kept them. It is appropriate to know what the answer is and take the appropriate actions. **Commissioner Polk** stated the plans presented by Chief Bowman were almost identical to the plans they have at the Sunnyside facility so he does not see much difference in the two cargo box training centers at this present time. **Commissioner Christian** said he was very disappointed with what he read in the newspaper where the County pretty much dogged our City and Fire Chief and stated he would have a hard time trusting and working with this person so thinks these relations have to be repaired. Commissioner Christian also stated he would also like to see a concrete written schedule on when both agencies are able to use the training facility and everyone knows what to expect. **Commissioner Hurley** stated he agrees with Commission Polk and would like to see some kind of resolution on this. Commissioner Hurley stated it is his understanding our firefighters have been training in an old house on 470, but if they can train at the county facility any time why are they training in a house and crawling around in rat feces with no bathrooms, etc. If the county facility is in

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Leesburg and is not being used that much, why does not the County just give it to Leesburg and let us handle the scheduling? If housing continues to be built in Sunnyside, it is fair to have a fire training center right in the middle of Sleepy Hollow and all those neighborhoods opposed to the landfill where there is plenty of room and it cannot be used for anything else.

Commissioner Polk suggested maybe the Commission could get Chief Jolliff to come to a meeting and give a report on what is being accomplished. **Commissioner Hurley** agreed. **Mayor Knowles** stated receiving some additional reports is a good idea and the Commission does not have to make a decision on this tonight, but will do something soon and asked ICM Sharp to invite the Chief to come and give a presentation. **ICM Sharp** stated he will contact the County Manager. **Commissioner Christian** asked if a resolution could be completed by budget time as Commissioner Polk suggested. **ICM Sharp** stated if meaning budget adoption in September, yes, something will be done before then.

Mayor Knowles stated he is happy to see Venetian Gardens looking nice and noticed some clay and road work going on down at Ski Beach, but stated there are still some pot holes and more road work is needed down there. He also stated the Leesburg Boat Club is building the barge for the July fourth fireworks display.

ADJOURN:

Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Betty M. Richardson
City Clerk

J. Andi Purvis
Recorder